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RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE COLLECTION OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Dr. Cyril F. dos Passos has donated his collection of 65,382 butterflies to the American Museum of Natural History. Of this total, 64,052 specimens are mounted and identified; 57,870 are from North America and 6182 are from Europe; 1330 are unmounted or unidentified. Included in the collection are 464 paratypes (no holotypes or allotypes) and 617 slides (124 venation, 493 genitalia). Dr. dos Passos started building his collection in 1929; it undoubtedly represents the single largest and most complete one of North American butterflies ever made by one individual. It far surpasses the two previous large collections of butterflies (no moths) received by the Department of Entomology, namely those of J. D. Gunder (27,000 North American specimens, received in 1937) and V. G. L. van Someren (23,000 African specimens, received in 1970). The addition of this collection gives the American Museum of Natural History an unrivaled collection of North American butterflies.

The museum has also received the collection of the late Bernard Heineman, consisting of 7075 mounted butterflies and moths. Of these, 2857 were from Jamaica, with the great majority being butterflies. This is the largest private collection of Jamaican butterflies ever made, and it served as the starting point for the 1972 book entitled, "Jamaica and its butterflies" by F. Martin Brown and Bernard Heineman. The other 4218 specimens represent a world-wide collection made by Mr. and Mrs. Heineman on their various trips throughout the world.

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